

Farmers' Market Committee

Background

Under the new food package regulations for WIC, states may choose to authorize farmers as vendors for the redemption of fruit and vegetable benefits. Next summer the Montana WIC Program plans to allow participants to redeem the fruit and vegetable benefit at authorized farmers' markets.

Purpose of the Committee

The criteria for selection and authorization, whether to include farm stands, training materials (farmers, participants and staff), and issues with differences in WIC FMNP regulations will be discussed. The Committee will present their recommendations for the upcoming season.

Commitment

Participate in several conference call meetings to discuss the issues. The first conference call will be December 10, 2009, starting at 10:00 am for a 2 hour block (following the regular monthly conference call). Additional calls will be scheduled between December and February. Total time commitment is expected to be between 10 and 20 hours (conference calls and research)

Recruiting

The State Office is requesting volunteers to serve on this committee. If you are interested, please e-mail Joan Bowsher at jbowsher@mt.gov. Selection will be made to include as much diversity as possible.